

# LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT

In 2003, the Northern Virginia region had a civilian labor force of 1.27 million persons and an unemployment rate of 2.5 percent. In that same year, unemployment in Loudoun County averaged 2.8 percent. The comparable national unemployment rate in that year was 6.0 percent.

**Table I-5.**  
**Labor Force Characteristics, 2003\***  
**Northern Virginia Jurisdictions**

| Jurisdiction          | Civilian Labor Force |               | Employment       | Unemployment  |             |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|
|                       | Number               | Distribution  |                  | Number        | Rate        |
| Alexandria City       | 83,845               | 6.6%          | 81,696           | 2,149         | 2.6%        |
| Arlington County      | 117,670              | 9.3%          | 115,190          | 2,480         | 2.1%        |
| Clarke County         | 6,837                | 0.5%          | 6,666            | 171           | 2.5%        |
| Fairfax City          | 13,310               | 1.0%          | 13,049           | 261           | 2.0%        |
| Fairfax County        | 576,263              | 45.3%         | 562,514          | 13,749        | 2.4%        |
| Falls Church City     | 6,414                | 0.5%          | 6,250            | 164           | 2.6%        |
| Fauquier County       | 30,918               | 2.4%          | 30,141           | 777           | 2.5%        |
| Fredericksburg City   | 10,604               | 0.8%          | 10,009           | 595           | 5.6%        |
| Loudoun County        | 115,768              | 9.1%          | 112,551          | 3,217         | 2.8%        |
| Manassas City         | 20,903               | 1.6%          | 20,300           | 603           | 2.9%        |
| Manassas Park City    | 5,896                | 0.5%          | 5,776            | 120           | 2.0%        |
| Prince William County | 163,471              | 12.9%         | 158,451          | 5,020         | 3.1%        |
| Spotsylvania County   | 51,546               | 4.1%          | 50,341           | 1,205         | 2.3%        |
| Stafford County       | 51,889               | 4.1%          | 50,641           | 1,248         | 2.4%        |
| Warren County         | 16,435               | 1.3%          | 15,815           | 620           | 3.8%        |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>1,271,769</b>     | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>1,239,390</b> | <b>32,379</b> | <b>2.5%</b> |

Source: Virginia Employment Commission.

\* Average of all 2003 monthly figures. Annual figures were not available at time of publication.